(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
10 March 2005 (10.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/022876 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: H04M 3/22, H04B 3/46, 3/23, H04M 9/08

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP2004/009299

(22) International Filing Date: 18 August 2004 (18.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/498,525 28 August 2003 (28.08.2003) US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,

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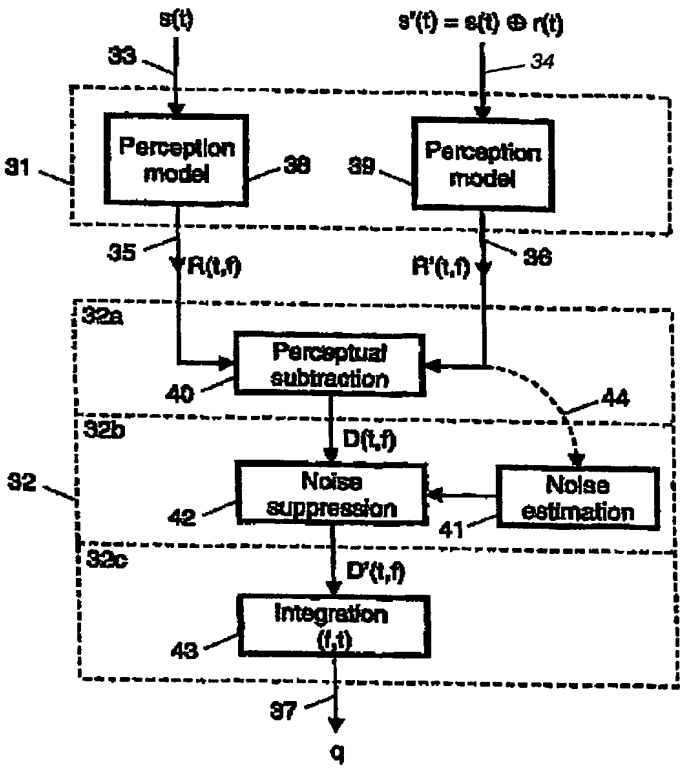
(54) Title: MEASURING A TALKING QUALITY OF A COMMUNICATION LINK IN A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Device and method for measuring a talking quality of a communication link in a communications network (10). The device comprises measurement means (22; 31, 36) connected to the communication link, which are arranged to subject a degraded speech signal s'(t) with respect to a reference speech signal s(t) to an objective measurement technique for measuring a perceptual quality of speech signals. Furthermore, the measurement means are arranged for producing a quality signal (q) which represents an estimated value concerning the talking quality degradation. The degraded speech signal comprises a returned signal r(t). The measurement means (22; 31, 36) are arranged to execute the objective measurement technique by modelling masking effects in consequence of noise present in the returned signal. The objective measurement technique comprises the determination of a threshold noise level by determining a local minimum value of the degraded speech signal s'(t).

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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:

— *with international search report*

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